GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4353
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Eco-Mine Tourism
Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to embark on free conducted tours called Eco-Mine Tourism near the mining areas to showcase the minimal environmental impact made by the mines and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether under this project Western Coalfields Ltd. has created any such eco-park in the areas under its mining and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) whether the public is allowed to visit the eco-mine parks as well as visit the opencast and underground mines and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): The development and promotion of tourism including organizing of conducted tours is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Agencies. The Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for projects based on requirements received from the respective State Government/UT Administration/Central Agency under respective schemes.

(b) & (c): Ministry of Coal informs that an Eco-Park spread over 50,000 Sq Metres has been established at Soner Mines under Nagpur Area of Western Coalfields Limited in Nagpur District. It is also informed that visitors are allowed to visit the Eco Park at Soner Mines with due permission from the Competent Authority. Public can visit/view the opencast mine from the view point with due approval and visit to underground Mines is restricted.
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